

Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Storm Causes Scattered Flooding

Saturday's storm, with heavy winds and high tide, had water coming up over the town pier and waves crashing right over the harbormaster's office.

"It's the first time it's done that. The sea hit the town pier, and the water went right over us into the parking lot. I've never seen that before," Harbormaster Don Beers said.

"This is the type of winter we've forgotten about in Duxbury. Last winter was a South Carolina winter, this is an honest to god New England winter," Beers said.

The harbormaster's office helped one commercial fisherman secure his boat on Saturday, and the combined wind and high water caused one of the town floats to snap its moorings, but otherwise there was no damage, Beers said.

"Wind is the enemy. Wind moves water, and water moves the beach, the piers and everything else," Beers said.

Duxbury Beach has been hit hard this winter, according to Beers. Since Christmas day, storms have taken down or damaged 7 to 10 thousand feet of snow fencing and posts.

Forecasts continue to call for snow and rain, and Beers doesn't expect the weather to let up any time soon. He said he could tell this fall that a busy winter was in store.



OVERFLOW LOT - High tides during Saturday's storm had sea water rising into the parking lot at the town dock. The water receded shortly thereafter, causing little damage other than leaving lumps of seaweed scattered about.

Photo by Patti Campbell

Nor'easter Causes Flooding Along the Shoreline

Photos By David Breck and Peter Dimatteo, Washington Street residents.



High tide causes flooding across Washington Street in the Bluefish River area.



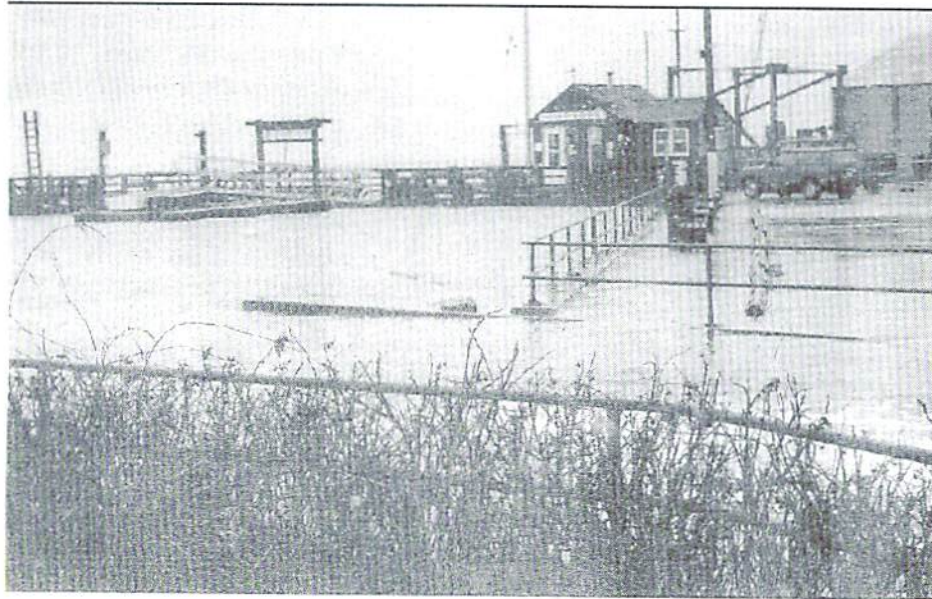
Duxbury Police divert traffic from Powder Point and St. George Street because of the flooding on Washington Street .



No longer a road, just a sea of water.



Residents watch as the tide continues to rise.



Town Pier parking area is flooded during the nor'easter on Saturday, Jan. 4.



Ground level high tide surges into Bluefish River under and over the bridge.



"Neither rain, snow or dark of night will keep the post office from delivering the mail..."



At noontime Saturday, high tides combined with stormy weather to cause flooding in several South Shore towns, including Duxbury. Water came over the town pier, and breached the Blue Fish River Bridge, but receded without causing any major damage. The extended forecast continues to call for more rain and snow.